

Message Text

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15/43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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R 171615Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4840

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

CIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 7683

C O R R C T E D C O P Y ADD USIA AS ACTION ADDRESSEE AND ADD
INFO ADDRESSEES

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, LE, UR

SUBJECT: JOINT LEBANESE-SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTIES STATEMENT ON
LEBABESE INTERNAL SITUATION

1. COMMUNIST PARTY OF LEBANON (CPL) DAILY "AN NIDA" OF
JUNE 16,1975, CARRIED UNDATED TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT WITH
SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY. STATEMENT EXPLANINS THAT JOINT
DECARATION WAS MADE DURING MEETING IN MOSCOW BETWEEN
NICOLA SHAWI, SYG OF CPL CENTRAL COMMITTE AND NADIM
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ABDUL SAMAD, SECRETARY OF CPL POLITBURO AND BORIS

PONOMAREV AND ROTISLAV OILANOVSKY (BOTH PHONETIC) FOR CPSU. DATE OF MEETING WAS NOT PROVIDED.

2. ASIDE FROM STANDARD EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY BETWEEN FRATERNAL PARTIES, STATEMENT CONTAINS FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON CPL'S DELEGATION INFORMED CPSU'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CPL'S ACTIVITIES REGARDING SOLIDARITY OF ALL NATIONALIST FORCES IN COUNTRY FOR COLUTION OF NATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND FOR DETERRING IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY CIRCLES EFFORTS TO STRIKE DEMOCRATIC AND PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN LEBANON AND PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT.

"SOVIET SIDE EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH CPL'S ACTIVITIES DIRECTED TOWARD DEFENSE OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND DEMOCRATIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND SOCIAL RIGHTS FOR LEBANESE WORKERS AND FOR SOLIDIFICATION ON UNITY OF NATIONAL AND DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY AND FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS".

3. COMMENT CPL HAS BEEN PROMINENT PARTICIPANT IN OCAI EVENTS BEGINNING WITH SIDON INCIDENTS OF EARLY MARCH 1975. DURING RECENT TROUBLES IN LATE MAY/EARLY JUNE. ARMED CADRES FROM CPL WERE FREQUENTLY REPORTED TO BE ACTIVE IN BEIRUT STREETS AND A NUMBER OF THE MANY ROAD-BLOCKS AND CHECK POINTS WHICH SPRANG UP AROUND TOWN WERE MANNED BY PERSONS WHO EITHER WORE RED ARMBANDS OR OPENLY IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS "COMMUNISTS". SIMILARLY, PROMINENT CPL FIGURES, SUCH AS SHAWI, HAVE FIGURED OPENLY WITH OTHER "LEFTISTS", (E.G. PPS, PRO-IRAQI BA'ATHISTS, ETC.) IN COUNCILS OF PROGRESSIVE SPOKESMAN KAMAL JUMBLATT. WE HAVE ALSO SEVERAL RECENT REPORTS, SOME FROM GOL OFFICIALS, OF INCREASED CONTACTS AND ACTIVITIES BY AMBASSADOR SOLDATOV AND MEMBERS OF LOCAL SOVIET EMBASSY STAFF OVER RECENT MONTHS.

4. ALTHOUGH LOCAL COMMUNIST PRESS ORGANS HAVE JOINED ENTHUSIASTICALLY IN LOCAL LEFTIST CAMPAIGN AGAINST PHALANGE PARTY, INCLUDING ACCUSATIONS OF USG AND OR JORDANIAN INVOLVEMENT WITH OR INSTIGATION OF PHALANGE (WE HAVE ALSO SEEN SEVERAL REPORTS OF SOVIET MEDIA ECHOING GENERAL LEFTIST

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VIEWPOINT RE PHALANGE CULPABILITY FOR RECENT BLOODY INCIDENTS HERE) CPL/CPXU JOINT STATEMENT GOES FURTHER, AXLBET WITH FEW SPECIFICS, TOWARD ENDORSING CPL (AND BY EXTENSION, LEBANESE LEFTIST) ACTIVITIES THAN ANY SOVIET DECLARATION WE HAVE SEEN THUS FAR. WE BELIEVE CPL SEES IN PRESENT CHAOS HERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED INFLUENCE BOTH IN STREETS AND, INDIRECTLY IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING FROM EMBASSY MOSCOW

SOVIET PRESS REPORTS OR OTHER STATEMENTS WHICH INDICATE THAT
KREMLIN IS READY TO BACK OPENLY (OR COVERTLY) CPL'S
BID FOR FURTHER POLITICAL INFLUENCE IN LEBANON.
GODLEY

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